

FROM THE DESK OF JOHN SAMPEN

Here at Bowling Green we are celebrating the arrival of another spring. It always is a minor victory to have survived the Ohio winters and especially this year it was a challenge to manage schedules with the unusual snowfall and cold weather. Our students, however, were overjoyed with a rare class cancellation (snowstorm) and found some free time to make snow "sculptures" in the courtyard.

While there are still concerns about budgetary problems at BGSU, the future is beginning to brighten and we are hopeful that an improving economy will help stabilize our educational efforts. The College of Musical Arts continues to grow and prosper with outstanding students and faculty and we are appreciative of our wonderful alumni who provide us with support, encouragement and dreams for the future.

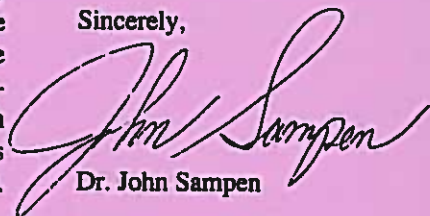
While I could not be at the OMEA Cincinnati Convention last fall, I know many of you had the opportunity to see Sax 4th Avenue Quartet perform to a packed and enthusiastic audience. The alumni "saxophone section" for our annual Band Reading Clinic was fantastic—congratulations to these people and to all former students who continue to enjoy performing.

I have just returned from a five-concert tour in Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas. While this was a great trip, it really makes me realize what a special school we have at Bowling Green. I think we can all be very proud of our past history and future potential. As we look ahead to the entering class of 1993, I am anticipating a talented and exciting class with new students from at least six states and the countries of Greece and Italy.

We all are enjoying a renewal of the "saxophone craze" with President Clinton in office. Regardless of one's politics, I think it is exciting to have an amateur musician sitting as head of our government. I truly believe his presence gives a sense of "legitimacy" to the saxophone and to the pursuit of fine arts in our troubled society. I am excited and optimistic about this "spiritual" renewal.

Please stay in touch and let us know what is happening in your lives. Best wishes for a wonderful spring and summer.

Sincerely,



Dr. John Sampen

SAX 4TH AVENUE

BGSU alumni Stanley George, Shannon Ford, Kevin Heidbreder and Jason Yost are now in their second year as members of Sax 4th Avenue..., an outstanding saxophone quartet dedicated to education and virtuosic performance. Special performing highlights from their 1992/93 season include featured quartet concerts at Indiana State University, Interlochen Arts Camp and the BGSU New Music and Art Festival. They also recently performed for a "standing room only" audience (including many BGSU alumni) at the 1993 OMEA convention in Cincinnati.

The ensemble presents all styles of music, including original commissions and new arrangements. They have been particularly recognized for their choreography ("a la Canadian Brass") and humorous presentations—their most "outrageous realization" features the William Tell Overture. A popular and active quartet, they continually delight audiences at

events such as the Grand Rapids Applebutter Festival, the Wood County Fair, the Defiance and North Coast Community Band concerts, and

various other public and university functions. Future plans call for touring and commissioning projects and an upcoming CD recording.



ALUMNI UPDATE

Lou Marini (retired in 1977 as BGSU saxophone professor) still lives in Arapahoe, NC where he plays golf, arranges jazz charts and leads his Al-Louis 17 piece big band. **Susan Cook** (1992) is completing her masters degree at Northwestern and has just won the baritone saxophone position with the United States Navy Band. **Valeri Conley Brokow** (1986) and **Doug Brokow** (1985) are parents to a new son—Jonathan Hopewell. The **Black Swamp Quartet** is reforming in Columbus, OH with **Brian Thomas** (1984), **Craig Young** (1989), **Wes Miller** (degree in progress) and **James Russell**. The quartet has already been engaged for a fall concert at the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.

Kelly Coffman Lewis (1989) is moving to Albany, GA. **Roberta**

Winemiller (1978) has completed a 2nd masters degree in Counseling Psychology and has taken a leave from her band directorship at Temple University to work as a guidance counselor in Philadelphia. **Jeff Myers** (1983) and **Jan** are parents to their second child—they now have a boy and a girl. **Bill Bousfield** (1991) has started graduate studies at University of North Texas. Rumor has it that **Eric Fairhurst** (1981) is now working in Decatur, IL as a religious minister. And **GREG RUFFER** (1987) has just accepted a new vocal/band position at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C.

Linda Hartley (1979) is in her 2nd year as director of the marching/pep band and coordinator of music education at the University of Dayton. **Robert Esterle** (1988) is head band

director at Highland High School. **Chris Ford** (1979) continues as head of the music department at the Baltimore School for the Arts, saxophone instructor at Peabody, and member of the Capital Saxophone Quartet. His second child (Mitchel) was born last February. **Beth Shirk** (1986) is nearly finished with her doctorate (ABD) from the University of Illinois and is working at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. **Stanley George** (1989) is band director at Elmwood HS. **Jason Yost** (1992) is band director at St. John's High School in Toledo. **Diana (Schmid) Goodwin** (1987) is now teaching in the Sydney Schools and is expecting her first child. She has a black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

DAVID RICE WINS FULBRIGHT

Senior saxophonist David Rice has recently been awarded a 1993/94 Fulbright Scholarship for studies with Jean-Marie Londeix at the Bordeaux Conservatory in France. Rice's other recent honors include the Student Artist Award for Phi Kappa Phi, finalist in the Hogg National Young Artist Auditions (Houston, TX), finalist for a Rotary Scholarship, winner of the BGSU Competitions in Music (1991), soloist with the BGSU Philharmonia, and performing artist at the Festival Mondiale del Sassofono in Pesaro, Italy. Besides his saxophone activities, David has received a violin scholarship at BGSU for the past five years.



David Rice and Dr. John Sampen

CURRENT EVENTS

During the 1992/93 academic year, our talented saxophone class consisted of seventeen undergraduates and five graduate students. Besides the traditional lessons and master classes, the saxophone chamber music program involved four SATB quartets and a resurrected saxophone choir; these groups performed at least twenty concerts throughout the states of Ohio, Indiana and New York. As we look forward to next season, our anticipated freshman class includes a stellar group of ten gifted saxophonists from Massachusetts, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Georgia and Ohio.

Musical highlights for the year include an exciting trip to Italy for the 10th World Saxophone Congress (Dr. Sampen and six students). Christopher Corde was named concerto winner (one of only three) and soloed with the Bowling Green Philharmonia (Creston Concerto). The Black Swamp Saxophone Quartet and Sax 4th Avenue Quartet both presented important recitals in Cincinnati. Sophomore Demmy Steinmetz and junior David Laub won positions in

performing groups for Cedar Point this summer; be sure to look for them in "Rock 'N Roll Fever" or "The Rockers."

Other studio honors went to Andy Buskey, who was finalist for a national anthem composition contest. John Kurokawa was winner of the Lima Symphony Concertos (on clarinet) and was named SAI "Man of the Year." Ed Wallace has spent the 1992/93 school year studying at Shandong University in China on a grant from the BGSU International Committee. David Rice has just won a Fulbright Scholarship for studies with Jean-Marie Londeix in France next year. David joins three previous saxophone alumni in winning this prestigious award (Christopher Ford, Joseph Murphy and Elizabeth Shirk). Kirk O'Riordan was 2nd prize winner of the Agnes Fowler Ohio Federation of Music Clubs. And three saxophone students won Outstanding Bandsman/Bandswomen awards (Amanda Materne, Darin Jesse and Christopher Corde).

As a saxophone class, we enjoyed

guest residencies by Eric Finney (saxophonist from Minnesota), Claude Delangle (Saxophone Professor of the Paris Conservatory) and Swiss saxophonist, Matthias Gubler. Dennis Sichner and Greg Ruffer returned to campus as special alumni speakers and provided fascinating perspectives on career and job opportunities. Several students joined in the Earth Day Celebration through a concert of music dedicated to birds. We also experimented with various saxophone/art collaborations and enjoyed tours of the new BGSU art galleries. And, of course, the saxophone studio participated in its usual round of "saxophone bonding" through a series of parties (frequently hosted by senior Amanda Materne).

The 1992 Super Sax Camp celebrated an exciting week of activities, concerts and fun and the staff is already planning for next June. Please spread the word and encourage interested students from grades 8-12. Dates will be June 13-18 ; call for information at 419/372-2181.

REMEMBER WHEN

Remember this "select" Saxophone Choir from 1986 which toured Ohio (including a concert at Ohio State University) and hosted composer Christian Lauba from France.

Top Row, L-R: Robert Esterle, Diana Schmid, Mike Dianich, Kim Bain, John Mausser, John Sampen, Joe Murphy

Middle Row, L-R: Brian Thomas, Christian Lauba, Stan George, Beth Bousfield (standing)

Front Row, L-R: Craig Young, Kevin Heidbreder, Tod Huston



10th WORLD SAXOPHONE CONGRESS

PESARO, ITALY

On September 3-7, 1992, John Sampen, Marilyn Shrude and six advanced BGSU saxophone students were participants at the 10th World Saxophone Congress (Festival Mondiale del Sassofono) in Pesaro, Italy. Held in different world locations every four years, this event is the most prestigious gathering of international concert and jazz saxophonists. In attendance were nearly 1000 artists, composers and enthusiasts from at least twenty countries. The five-day festival featured concerts, masterclasses, equipment displays, demonstrations and meetings. For these world conventions, one important focus is the performance of new compositions for the instrument. Nearly 95 works received world premieres and many other late 20th Century compositions were presented, offering an important cross-section of new music activity from all over the world.

Most of the concert activities were held in the Teatro G. Rossini, a beautiful 19th century hall seating approximately 1000 people. The performance on September 4th featured world premieres of new music by Dr. Shrude (*And They Shall Inherit...*) and by the late internationally-recognized composer John Cage (*Four 5*). Performing in a saxophone ensemble with Dr. Sampen were graduate students Shannon Ford, Sarai Hedges, Kirk O'Riordan and undergraduate students Susan Cook, Amanda Materne and David Rice. The concert attracted considerable attention, including local TV cameras and a full house.



Photo caption—BGSU representatives to the 10th World Saxophone Congress standing in front of old church in Pesaro, Italy
Front L-R, Mark Bunce, Marilyn Shrude, Maria Sampen, Sarai Hedges, David Sampen; Back L-R, Pete Ford, Shannon Ford, Susan Cook, David Rice, Amanda Materne, John Sampen, Kirk O'Riordan

Marilyn Shrude conducted both performances.

Dr. Sampen additionally presented a concerto with the Orchestra Internazionale D'Italia on September 6th (Sampen was one of only four orchestral soloists from the USA). Assisted by BGSU electronic engineer Mark Bunce, he played Morton Subotnick's *In Two Worlds* for alto saxophone, computer and orchestra, a work which he commissioned with help from the NEA in 1984. Again, the hall was sold out and the performance was well received.

Other Congress activities included a performance by alumni Dennis

Lindsay (with Dr. Shrude), playing a composition by alumni composer/saxophonist Robert Steel. Steel also composed a new work premiered by the Vision Saxophone Quartet of Chicago. Graduating senior, Susan Cook commissioned and premiered a solo saxophone composition by alumni composer Evan Chambers (who is the new faculty composer at University of Michigan).

These various presentations helped establish the name of Bowling Green State University as a major center for composition, technology and saxophone performance, and instruction.

